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00684.003281.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masakatsu OTA et al.

Application No.: 09/986,303

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: PROJECTION EXPOSURE
APPARATUS AND DEVICE
MANUFACTURING METHOD
USING THE SAME

Prior Examiner: Unassigned

Prior Group Art Unit: 2872

January 4, 2002

RECEIVED
JAN - 8 2002
TC 2300 MAIL ROOMCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

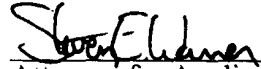
Japanese patent document 10-163547 is discussed on page 1 of the specification and corresponds to European patent document 0 820 132.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicants request that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 Form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steven E. Warner", is written over a horizontal line.

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SEW/eab

Sheet 1 of 1 FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: January 4, 2002								ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003281.		APPLICATION NO. 09/986,303	
APPLICANTS: Masakatsu OTA et al.								FILING DATE November 8, 2001		GROUP 2872	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS											
*EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE				
		4,891,663	01/02/1990	Hirose	355	53					
		4,811,055	03/07/1989	Hirose	355	53					
		4,773,750	09/27/1988	Bruning	353	122					
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT				
		10-163547	06/19/1998	Japan			Abstract				
		0 820 132 A2	01/21/1998	Europe							
		9-199403	07/31/1997	Japan			Abstract				
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)											
EXAMINER						DATE CONSIDERED					

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.